

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov

**NOTICE FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS
TO SUBMIT ADJUSTMENTS TO
DEFAULT OUTDOOR LIGHTING ZONES**

The Energy Commission adopted changes to the Title 24, Parts 1 and 6, Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Standards) on November 5, 2003. These new Standards become effective on October 1, 2005. Included in the changes to the Standards are new requirements for outdoor lighting. The requirements vary according to which "Lighting Zone" the equipment is in. The Standards contain lighting power allowances for newly installed equipment and specific alterations that are dependent on which Lighting Zone the project is located in. Existing outdoor lighting systems are not required to meet these lighting power allowances. However, alterations that increase the connected load, or replace more than 50% of the existing luminaires, for each outdoor lighting application that is regulated by the Standards, must meet the lighting power allowances for newly installed equipment.

This notice describes the reporting requirements that local jurisdictions must follow when making changes to the Lighting Zones.

Background

An important part of the Standards is to base the lighting power that is allowed on how bright the surrounding conditions are. The eyes adapt to darker surrounding conditions, and less light is needed to properly see; when the surrounding conditions get brighter, more light is needed to see. The least power is allowed in Lighting Zone 1 and increasingly more power is allowed in Lighting Zones 2, 3, and 4. Providing greater power than is needed potentially leads to debilitating glare, to an increasing spiral of brightness as over-bright projects become the surrounding conditions for future projects causing future projects to unnecessarily require greater power, and to wasting of energy.

The Energy Commission sets statewide Lighting Zones. However, local jurisdictions (usually a city or county) may change the zones to accommodate local conditions. When a local jurisdiction adopts changes to the Lighting Zone boundaries, it must follow a public process that allows for formal public notification, review, and comment about the proposed change. The local jurisdiction also must provide the Energy Commission with detailed information about the new Lighting Zone boundaries, and submit a justification that the new Lighting Zones are consistent with the specifications in Section 10-114 of the Standards. Please see Attachment 1, Instructions and Data Form for Local Jurisdictions to Submit Adjustments to Default Outdoor Lighting Zones.

The Energy Commission will maintain on its website a list of local adjustments to the Lighting Zones. Jurisdictions are required to notify the Energy Commission of changes in designation using the form on Attachment 2, Adjustments to Outdoor Lighting Zones.

Attachment 1

Instructions and Data Form for Local Jurisdictions to Submit Adjustments to Default Outdoor Lighting Zones

Lighting Zone Adjustments by Local Jurisdiction

The Energy Commission sets statewide default Lighting Zones. However, local jurisdictions (usually a city or county) may change the zones to accommodate local conditions. Local governments may designate a portion of Lighting Zones 2 as Lighting Zone 3 or Lighting Zone 4, or designate a portion of Lighting Zone 3 as Lighting Zone 4. The local jurisdiction also may designate a portion of Lighting Zone 3 as Lighting Zone 2 or even Lighting Zone 1. When a local jurisdiction adopts changes to the Lighting Zone boundaries, they must follow a public process that allows for formal public notification, review, and comment about the proposed change. They also must provide the Energy Commission with detailed information about the new Lighting Zone boundaries and submit a justification that the new Lighting Zones are consistent with the specifications in Section 10-114 of the Standards.

The Energy Commission maintains a web-based list of local adjustments to the default Lighting Zones. Jurisdictions are required to notify the Energy Commission of the change in designation, with a detailed specification that includes the following information:

- The boundaries of the adopted Lighting Zones, consisting of the county name, the city name if any, the zip code(s) of the redesignated areas, and a description of the physical boundaries within each zip code.
- A description of the public process that was conducted in adopting the Lighting Zone changes.
- An explanation of how the adopted Lighting Zone changes are consistent with the specifications in the Standards.

Listed on the following page, there are basically two ways to define the physical boundaries of an adopted Lighting Zone by defining either a single corridor, or defining an area within specific boundaries.

1. Examples of defining a single corridor:

- Properties with frontage on Mazi Expressway, between First Ave and Third Ave, to a depth of 50 ft. from each frontage property line.
- The area 500 ft. east of Interstate 5, from 500 ft. north of Gary Avenue to 250 ft. south of West William Way.
- The area of the Memorial Bike Trail starting at Bryan Avenue and going east to Eurlyne Park, the width of a path which is from the edge of the South Fork of the Randel River on one side, to 100 ft. beyond the paved bike trail, or to private property lines, whichever is shorter, on the other side.

2. Example of using an area within specific, well-delineated boundaries

- The area that is bounded by the Nelson River on the west, Elaine Lane on the south, Jon Road on the east, and the boundary of Beverly County on the north.

A copy of the attached data form, *Adjustments to Outdoor Lighting Zones*, shall be completed and submitted to:

By Mail	or by FAX	or by email
Gary Flamm California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street, MS 25 Sacramento, CA 95814-5504	916-654-4304	gflamm@energy.state.ca.us

Attachment 2

Adjustments to Outdoor Lighting Zones

Instructions: Please fill out the following information and submit to the California Energy Commission

Zip Code	Adopted Lighting Zone (LZ)	Default Lighting Zone (LZ)	Description of the Physical Boundaries of Adopted Lighting Zone
	(Example: LZ2)	(Example: LZ3)	Example: The area that is bounded by the Nelson River on the west, Elaine Lane on the south, Jon Road on the east, and the boundary of Beverly County on the north.

County Name	City Name	A description of the public process that was conducted
		Example: Public notice posted in local newspaper on 6/6/04 (state the name(s) of the newspaper), written comments accepted through 7/6/04, adoption meeting of the Board of Supervisors conducted on 7/11/04, adopted by Board of Supervisors after public discussion.

How the adopted Lighting Zone changes are consistent with the specifications in the Standards
Example: A public process was conducted as required by Section 10-114 (c). Table 10-114-A allows special districts and government designated parks within a default LZ3 zone to be designated as LZ2 by the local jurisdiction.

Information about the building permit jurisdiction	
Name of city, county, special district, etc.	Address

Contact Information:		
Name of Contact	Phone Number	Position